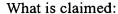
CLAIMS





5

- 1. Apparatus for controlling pipeline televising equipment comprising a power control unit having at least one input plug, the apparatus including:
- -a communication module having an output plug substantially identical to the input plug, such module including a receiving antenna; and
 - -a wireless master control module including a transmitting antenna; and wherein:
- -the control module includes at least two actuators, one each for panning and for tilting a pipeline television camera.
 - 2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the actuators are first and second actuators and the control module includes a third actuator for energizing a tractor carrying the camera.

15

20

25

- 3. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein:
- -the master control module includes a radio-frequency transmitter coupled to the transmitting antenna; and
- -when the first actuator is manipulated, the transmitting antenna radiates a signal having a frequency between about 10KHz and about 6 GHz.
 - 4. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein:
- -when either one of the second and third actuators is manipulated, the transmitting antenna radiates a signal having a frequency between about 10KHz and about 6GHz.
- 5. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the transmitting antenna radiates a signal having a frequency between about 400MHz and 430Mhz.
 - 6. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the signal is an on-off keyed signal.
 - 7. The apparatus of claim 1 further including the pipeline televising camera.



- 8. In a pipeline televising system including:
- -a power control module having (a) a power control unit, (b) a digital display unit, (c) a video cassette recorder, and (d) a television monitor; and
- -a pipeline televising camera cable-tethered to the power control unit through a power line modem;

the improvement wherein:

- -the power control module includes a communication section having a receiving antenna; and
 - -the system includes a master control module having a transmitting antenna.

10

5

- 9. The system of claim 8 wherein:
- -the master control module includes an actuator for panning the camera; and
- -when the actuator is manipulated, a radio frequency signal radiates from the transmitting antenna and is received by the receiving antenna.

15

20

- 10. The system of claim 9 wherein:
- -the transmitting and receiving antennae are separated by an opaque barrier; and
- -when the radio frequency signal propagates from the transmitting antenna, such signal penetrates the barrier.
 - 11. The system of claim 10 wherein:
 - -the transmitting antenna radiates a signal; and
 - -the signal has a frequency between about 400 MHz and about 430MHz.

25



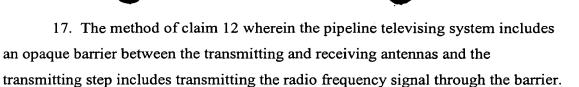
5

12 A method for televising the interior of a pipeline including the steps of:
-providing a pipeline televising system having (a) a tractor-mounted
television camera, (b) a power control unit cable-coupled to the camera, and (c) a
communication module cable-coupled to the power control unit and having a
receiving antenna mounted thereon;

- -moving the tractor-mounted camera into a pipeline;
- -manipulating at least one actuator on a master control module having a transmitting antenna; and,
- -transmitting a radio frequency signal from the master control module to the communication module.
 - 13 The method of claim 12 wherein:
 - -the pipeline includes a manhole;
 - -the moving step includes lowering the tractor-mounted camera through the manhole; and
 - -the manipulating step is carried out adjacent to the manhole.
 - 14. The method of claim 13 wherein the lowering and manipulating steps are carried out within 10 feet of the manhole.

20

- 15. The method of claim 14 wherein the system has an operator and the manipulating step is carried out by the operator while viewing the tractor-mounted camera.
- 25 16. The method of claim 12 wherein the manipulating step commands the tractor to move forward inside the pipeline and the method further includes the steps of:
 - -moving the master control module to a location which is greater than a predetermined distance from the communication module; and
- 30 -disabling the tractor.



- 18. The method of claim 12 wherein the radio frequency signal is an on-off keyed signal.
 - 19. The method of claim 17 wherein the radio frequency signal is an on-off keyed signal.

10